

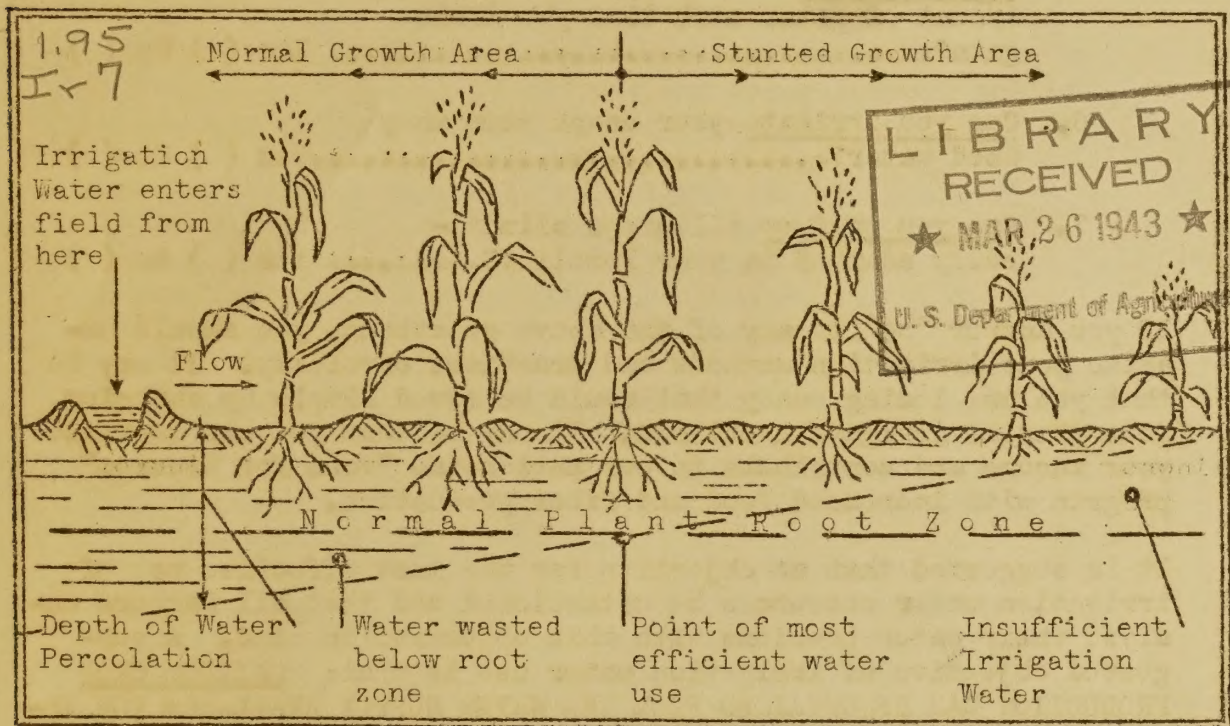
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U.S. Farm security administration.

IRRIGATION

"FOOD FOR FREEDOM" STYLE

Irrigated agriculture must be prepared to carry its full share in our 1943 "Food for Freedom" program. Are you doing your part of the job?



The "Old Way is still the Best" if you can answer "yes" to all the following questions:

1. Can you distribute the irrigation water evenly over the whole crop area being irrigated?..... Yes () No ()
2. Can you maintain your "top soil" and prevent erosion with present irrigation methods?..... Yes () No ()

3. Can you rotate your crops properly and thereby maintain soil fertility and production?..... Yes () No ()
4. Can you maintain present production and prevent "water logging" of land with present irrigation methods?..... Yes () No ()
5. Can you supply the crop with the right amount of water each time you irrigate?..... Yes () No ()
6. Can you irrigate your crops when they need water?.....Yes () No ()
7. Can you produce all crops climatically adapted to your locality?..... Yes () No ()

If you answer "no" to any of the above questions, you should examine your irrigation methods and practices carefully. It may be that you are losing money that could be saved simply by changing your present irrigation methods. It may be that you can increase your income and contribute to our nationwide "Food for Freedom" program with increased food and fiber production.

It is suggested that an objective for the most effective use of irrigation water resources be established and that all farmers analyze their water problems with this objective in mind. A suggested objective of irrigation water use is that: MAXIMUM CROP PRODUCTION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE WATER SUPPLY AVAILABLE FOR IRRIGATION ONLY IF THIS WATER IS APPLIED TO THE CROP LAND AT THE PROPER TIME; IN THE PROPER AMOUNT; IN THE FORM OF RAIN.

Review again the seven questions in the light of this objective which expresses the best use of your irrigation water resources. See how nearly your present irrigation methods and practices meet the full objective. It is expected that in most cases you will find you have a long way to go and that complete realization of the object is not economically possible. You may find, however

that you can still do much to improve your farm; your income; and your contribution to the nations food and fiber supply.

The adjustments to consider in obtaining the maximum use of all irrigation water resources are suggested:

1. The relocation of farm ditches to eliminate long furrows of long irrigation water runs on steep or loose soil will provide a more even distribution of water on all crop land, decrease soil and water losses, and increase crop production on the farm.
2. Construction of small "overnight" storage reservoirs, on individual farms or for small groups of farmers using the same water supply may make it possible to collect small stream flows and provide for their release in efficient size irrigation streams.
3. Rehabilitation of existing worn out or leaky head gates, weirs, dividers, flumes, etc., on the individual farms or on ditches or canals serving groups of farmers, will save water and increase the supply that reaches the crop land.
4. Consolidation of parallel or nearby canals and ditches may eliminate large transportation, transpiration, and seepage losses between the "point of diversion" and "place of use". Water thus saved will be made available to crops on the land.
5. A reorganization of irrigation practices may provide an efficient stream of water to meet the needs of the crops to be grown on the particular type of soil found on the farm or in the area served by a common water supply.
6. Installation of permanent or portable sprinkler systems

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will provide efficient irrigation on rolling lands not subject to other effective methods of irrigation.

7. Installation of permanent or portable sprinkler systems would make it possible to distribute small, late season supplies in producing new crops or full yields of present crops. A full, new, crop rotation system on the farm may be possible if the late season water supply is properly conserved and used.
 8. Installation of ditch lining or concrete pipe will save water lost in canals and ditches and on individual farms will add additional crop acreage now wasted or not fully utilized.
 9. Repair or replacement of worn out or inefficient pumping plants will prevent crop failure through breakdown during the irrigation season and generally reduce power costs and thereby increase farm income.
 10. Development of new water supplies, both surface and underground water, may furnish supplemental water for present crop acres or a full supply for land not now being irrigated.
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Can you increase your present crop production by adopting any of the above suggestions? Can you further increase your production by cooperating with your neighbors in adopting any of the above suggestions? If you can, it is your duty to do so at once. The nation needs all the food and fiber you can produce and needs it now. You need the increased income from your farm to meet higher operating and living costs.

The Farm Security Administration, County RR Supervisor, County Extension Agent, or other representative of the Department of Agriculture, can assist you in obtaining proper engineering and finance to improve your irrigation methods.